Public Awareness Programs for Pipeline Operators API "RP1162"

RP1162 is Co-Sponsored by:
- American Petroleum Institute (API) - www.api.org
- Association of Oil Pipelines (AOPL) - www.aopl.org
- Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA) - www.ingaa.org
- American Gas Association (AGA) - www.aga.org
- American Public Gas Association (APGA) – www.apga.org
- National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR)
- Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS)

Why Pay Attention to RP1162:
- OPS Commitment to Improve Operators' Public Education Programs (and NTSB Recommendations)
- Public communications provisions in the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act (PSIA) Of 2002
- OPS Intent to Incorporate RP 1162 Guidance by Reference into Pipeline Safety Regulations
- Bottom Line is to Ensure Operators Can Develop/Manage Effective Public Awareness Programs

RP1162 Principle Objectives:
- Provide a framework (management system) for public awareness program development, implementation, and administration
- Provide recommended baseline program and guidance and considerations for determining _supplemental activities_
- Provide guidance for program performance evaluation and continuous improvement

Applicability of RP1162 by Pipeline Type:
- Hazardous Liquid Pipelines (Intrastate and Interstate)
- Natural Gas Transmission Pipelines (Intrastate and Interstate)
- Local Distribution (LDC) Pipelines
- Gathering Pipelines

Scope – RP1162 Focuses On:
- Public awareness along existing pipeline routes
- Transmission, local distribution and gathering pipelines
- Framework for integrity management overview communications

Scope – RP1162 Does Not Focus On:
- Communication of operator specific data
- Public consultation for new pipeline construction
- Data reporting to or operator history with OPS and data availability by OPS
- Communications following incident response

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Key Stakeholder Audiences:
- Affected Public
- Emergency Response Officials
- Local Public Officials (new for many operators)
- Excavators

Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (Section 5)
- Requires operators to have a continuing program to educate the public…
- Requires the program to include activities to advise affected Municipalities, School districts, Businesses, and Residents
- Requires operators to "review its existing public education program for effectiveness and modify the program as necessary" by 12/17/03
- Requires program be submitted to DOT/OPS or appropriate state agency for review (no date yet)

Path Forward - OPS Perspective:
- OPS to Incorporate RP1162 into Regulations by Reference
- Informal Operator Self-Assessment:
    o Ensure operators are apprised of requirement for formal self-assessment
    o Provide opportunity for questions to support a more informed response to the formal self-assessment
    o Provide assurance that industry is committed to improved public awareness programs
    o OPS will evaluate aggregate results of SAs to identify areas where operators require most assistance
- Formal Self-Assessment Required by 12/17/03 *(Availability in Nov., 2003)*
    o Pipeline Safety Improvement Act (PSIA) of 2002 Requirements
    o OPS Will Evaluate Results and Focus on Areas Where Operators Require Most Assistance
    o OPS will NOT require operators to submit plans by 12/17/03 (but plan submittal is required)

Website Availability of Info:
- OPS RP1162 Workshop Website, Public Awareness & Self-Assessment Forms:
    http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/edu/RP1162_workshops.htm
    http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/edu/rule.htm
- RP1162 Electronically – view only
    http://committees.api.org/pipeline/standards/index.html
- Published RP1162 available later from API Publications
    www.api.org/cat
- Liquid pipeline stakeholder education site:
    www.pipeline101.org *or* www.pipeline101.com
- OPS stakeholder education site:
    www.tsi.dot.gov/divisions/pipeline/Intro_to_Pipeline/

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